

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

**ROD ROSS et al.**

Application No.: 09/895,304

Filed: June 29, 2001

For: **CUTTING BLADE ASSEMBLY  
FOR A MICROKERATOME**

Examiner: Sarah K. Webb

Art Group: 3731

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The applicant would like to file the following preliminary amendment for the above-entitled application.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please change inventor "Greg" Hughes to --Gregg-- Hughes.

Please change inventor "J.R." Dennewill to --James Robert-- Dennewill.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 4, 12 and 16-32.

Please amend claims 1 and 9 as follows.

1. (Amended) A blade assembly that can be assembled into an inner cavity of a microkeratome, the inner cavity having a reference surface, the microkeratome having a pin  
~~medical device used to cut a cornea,~~ comprising:

a blade that has a cutting edge, a rear edge, and a pair of side edges that extend between said cutting edge and said rear edge, ~~said blade having a notch in one of said side edges;~~ and,